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October 28th, 1913

Dr. E. K. Sanders,

International Committee, Y.M.C.A.,

124 East 25th Street, New York.

Dear Dr. Sanders:

I have read your classified list of opinions with regard to the working of the Young Men's Christian Association and have been quite surprised at the volume of adverse opinion that has been gathered together. I am afraid that I am hardly in a position to send you an opinion that would be of much value, though I can imagine that some of the criticisms are sufficiently justifiable. I should suppose that in Canada the situation is not quite as acute as it seems to be in some parts of the United States. As far as I can judge the Young Men's Christian Associations have not been able to draw off to their work enough men to interfere with the theological colleges, and denominational life is so strong in this country that I doubt whether the Y.M.C.A. could prosper by ignoring it. I am of the opinion that they are endeavouring to work in harmony with the denominations, and that they are doing a large institutional work, which would be beyond the power of any one Church to accomplish. However, I must confessedly speak somewhat as an outsider, and it is well that the note of warning which is sounded in your pamphlet should be regarded, because nothing entirely good can come from a spirit of antagonism arising between the Church and any such organisation, as may under proper conduction become a great aid for its purposes.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.